

38. The apparatus as claimed in claim 35, further comprising a cover movably supported adjacent an end of the casing such that the cover opens at least slightly to permit gas to escape from the first channel when pressure inside the first channel is significantly greater than pressure outside the first channel.

39. The apparatus as claimed in claim 35, in combination with the radiation sensor.

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40. (New) A system for monitoring an amount of Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) generated by a combustor, comprising:

A3 at least one radiation sensor to monitor radiation emitted within the combustor and to produce a signal indicative thereof; and

at least one processor that analyzes the signal to monitor the amount of Nitrogen Oxides (NOx) generated by the combustor.

41. (New) The system of claim 40, wherein the at least one radiation sensor is arranged to monitor radiation emitted from a flame zone of the combustor.

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#### REMARKS

Prior to this amendment, claims 1-39 were pending in this application. Applicant has amended claim 21, canceled claim 30, and added new claims 40 and 41. Accordingly, claims 1-29, and 31-41 are now pending in this application.

This amendment is being submitted prior to receipt of a first Office Action on the merits. Entry of the amendment prior to examination on the merits is therefore respectfully requested.

If the Examiner believes for any reason that the application is not in condition for allowance, the Examiner is requested to contact the Applicant's attorney at the number listed below.

#### CONCLUSION

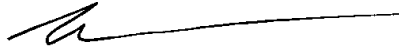
If this response is not considered timely filed and if a request for an extension of time is otherwise absent, Applicant hereby requests any necessary extension of time. If there is a fee

occasioned by this response, including an extension fee that is not covered by an enclosed check, please charge any deficiency to Deposit Account No. 23/2825.

Respectfully submitted,

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By:



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**XNDD**

**MARKED-UP CLAIMS**

21. (Amended) The system of claim 20, wherein the at least one processor is configured to determine at least one first combustion parameter based upon the AC component of the signal, to determine at least one second combustion parameter based upon the AC component of the signal, and to combine the first and second combustion parameters to determine the at least one combined combustion parameter.